

Serial No. 10/607,012
Declaration of Charles W. Walker Jr.

Attorney Docket No. ARL 03-02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Charles W. Walker Jr.

Serial No.: 10/607,012

Group Art Unit: 1713

Filing Date: June 27, 2003

Examiner: Robert D. Harlan

For: INTERPENETRATING POLYMER NETWORK

DECLARATION OF CHARLES W. WALKER JR. UNDER 37 CFR §1.131

I, Charles W. Walker Jr., declare as follows:

1. I am the inventor of the invention disclosed in the above-identified application for patent.
2. I have reviewed and am familiar with the article entitled "Proton-conducting polymer membrane comprised of a copolymer of 2-acrylamido-2-methylpropanesulfonic acid and 2-hydroxyethyl methacrylate" published in *Journal of Power Sources* 110 (2002) 144-151. I am the author of this article. This article was published July 20, 2002 on my behalf.
3. I understand that claims 8-14 and 19 of the application have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Homma et al., *Journal of Applied Polymer Science* 75 (2000) 111-118 in view of my *Journal of Power Sources* article. It is my understanding that Homma is deficient in lacking a second type of monomer polymerized with PAMPS or the use of silica. My article is cited to bolster Homma in regard to these aspects.
4. I state that the above-referenced application was filed on my behalf on June 27, 2003, and therefore within one year of the publication of my article of July 20, 2002. In light of my article encompassing aspects of my invention not constituting a statutory bar to the invention

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claimed in the above-referenced application, I believe my article is not prior art applicable to the pending claims.

5. Subsequent to the publication of my article due diligence was exercised in submitting an invention disclosure and causing the above-referenced patent application to be filed.

6. I declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true. These statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

/ Charles W. Walker, Jr. /

Charles W. Walker Jr.

Date: 28 September 2005